

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HB 308 – SB 1198

March 10, 2017

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires the State Board of Education (SBE) in consultation with the Commissioner of the Department of Education (DOE) to establish appropriate performance goals and measures for schools and LEAs. Requires the DOE to annually recommend and the SBE to approve, performance designations for LEAs based on the established performance goals and measures, which designate high performing LEAs to be identified by the DOE on a public list of LEAs earning the highest accountability determination and be granted increased latitude in funding flexibility by the DOE. Specifies actions to be taken for the lowest performing LEAs. Identifies criteria for schools to qualify as priority schools. Requires priority schools to be subject to turnaround through an LEA-led intervention or other improvement process. Requires LEAs to implement a comprehensive support and improvement plan for the school to improve student outcomes for schools designated as priority schools. Removes a provision that excludes any school system on the grounds that it is performing above the base requirements established by the SBE for the approval of schools.

Specifies how certain student attendance should be assigned for purposes of calculating graduation rates. Specifies alternate assessment guidelines for students with cognitive disabilities. Requires the SBE to adopt an alternate academic diploma for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities.

Authorizes the Commissioner of the DOE to assign only priority schools to the Achievement School District (ASD) after June 1, 2017. Limits grades that can be served by schools assigned to the ASD. Requires the Commissioner of the DOE to consider geographic clusters of qualifying schools and feeder patterns with multiple eligible schools. Sets out requirements for schools in the ASD.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions:

- No change in Basic Education Program (BEP) funding formula.
- The DOE can create lists of high achieving and priority schools within existing resources.

HB 308 – SB 1198

- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Annotated § 49-1-602, priority schools are already subject to DOE commissioner approved interventions.
- The SBE can establish performance goals and measures as well as approve performance designations and adopt an alternate academic diploma for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities through the normal course of business.
- The fiscal impact of this bill on state government is estimated to be not significant.
- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Annotated § 49-1-602, LEAs must create an aggressive plan for corrective action and submission of such plan to the Commissioner for approval and be placed on a list of LEAs in need of improvement. Therefore, this change will not increase costs for LEAs.
- LEAs can develop comprehensive support and improvement plans within existing resources.
- Under current practice, the ASD has opened new schools to serve students assigned to the ASD. However, the ASD does not have plans to authorize any newly formed schools beyond June 1, 2017.
- The fiscal impact of this bill on local government is estimated to be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

/maf